



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending September 30, 2007

RAIN WELCOMED AS HARVEST CONTINUES

Although there were scattered showers across the State last week, Tennessee farmers took advantage of mostly dry weather and made good progress harvesting row crops. Corn producers were finishing up harvest, while soybean and cotton farmers are well underway. Soybean harvest was over a fourth completed at week’s end, with development 2 weeks ahead of normal. Cotton farmers also took advantage of last week’s dry conditions to advance harvest, ahead of last year and the five-year average by more than a week. Tobacco growers continued harvest with progress running at a normal pace. Pasture conditions ranged from very poor-to-fair, even with the rain showers. Many beef producers continued feeding hay and hauling water. Cattle were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition, while hay stocks were rated 46 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 17 percent adequate. A few farmers have started sowing winter wheat, but the majority are awaiting more rain for land preparations and seeding. Fertilizer and lime applications and burley stripping were some of the other farming activities taking place last week.

Above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall were reported across the entire state last week, allowing 6 days for field work. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 26 percent very short, 40 percent short, 33 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 51 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 11 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Harvested for Grain	97	94	82	81	Cattle	10	17	42	27	4
Cotton – Harvested	26	16	14	12	Cotton	7	32	45	14	2
Cotton – Defoliated	86	71	61	57	Pastures	43	33	21	3	0
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	88	80	78	68	Soybeans	32	29	29	10	0
Soybeans – Harvested	28	16	23	18						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	93	85	88	90						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	11	7	4	9						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	89	82	90	91						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	6	n/a	5	5						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Scattered showers continue to help revive pastures. Every cattle producer has seeded wheat and ryegrass in their old pastures and weather has helped this seed to germinate. Some are still buying hay to fit their winter needs.”
Steve Glass, Decatur County

“Soybean harvest has started, although most of the double crop beans will be abandoned. Recent rains have greened things up a little, but more is needed to keep things growing.”
John Bartee, Montgomery County

“A little warmer weather returned for the first half of the week followed by more seasonable temperatures after a cold front moved through Thursday morning producing some measurable rainfall; however, most of the rain was less than 0.5 inch, doing very little to provide soil moisture. The last of the corn crop is being gathered, for the most part the harvest is through. Soybean harvest is slowly getting underway with yields of early planted/early maturing beans being poor. Later maturing beans appear to be doing better, wheat beans are not damaged by extreme temperatures and have a chance to produce normal yields. The cotton crop has been treated with defoliant and is getting ready for harvest, which should begin this week, producers reporting they are expecting yields to be 25-30% lower than last year.”
Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Producers are baling corn and soybeans for livestock forage. Field crops have been hurt from dry weather and are not producing adequate grain yields. Weather continues to be extremely dry with no adequate rainfall. Pastures are extremely short and some cattle are looking unthrifty due to parasite load.”
Jerry Lamb, Rhea County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: September 30, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending September 30, 2007				Current Week 09/30/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	92	53	76	9	0.75	4	23.95	-15.30	16.31	-9.17
Tri-City_RGNL_A	92	41	71	8	0.02	1	17.06	-14.74	11.54	-9.89
Brownsville_TN	91	55	75	7	1.55	3	24.02	-15.16	16.23	-9.15
Chattanooga/Lov	93	51	76	8	0.00	0	25.73	-14.73	18.48	-6.25
Clarksville_Sew	95	52	74	9	1.37	3	32.17	-5.60	23.05	-1.07
Cookeville	94	45	73	8	0.25	1	24.39	-18.68	14.49	-13.55
Covington	88	55	74	7	2.49	2	27.47	-10.96	18.69	-6.06
Crossville_AP	86	44	70	8	0.00	0	27.93	-14.07	20.91	-6.07
Dayton	91	47	72	6	0.00	0	27.86	-14.49	21.23	-5.10
Dickson_AG	89	48	72	6	0.50	2	24.74	-15.73	15.15	-11.31
Dover_1W	91	52	73	9	1.40	2	27.22	-12.11	16.84	-8.59
Dyersburg	91	52	74	7	1.22	2	25.02	-12.36	15.94	-8.62
Erwin_1W	91	43	71	10	0.02	1	26.20	-12.12	20.58	-6.23
Huntingdon_Wate	91	51	73	7	1.89	3	22.77	-17.03	14.36	-11.68
Jackson_Exp_Stn	91	51	74	7	1.18	2	24.13	-14.86	15.45	-10.26
Kingston_AG	91	50	73	9	0.00	0	27.79	-16.28	19.59	-8.40
Knoxville_AP	93	49	74	9	0.00	0	25.82	-10.19	18.78	-3.91
Lewisburg	93	44	73	8	0.17	1	27.30	-13.69	19.67	-6.74
Lexington_TN	91	52	74	7	0.88	1	26.04	-11.90	16.45	-8.30
Linden	91	46	73	8	0.76	3	27.86	-13.53	18.70	-7.70
Martin	92	53	74	8	1.13	3	30.43	-9.01	19.46	-6.74
Mc_Minnville_Tn	91	49	73	7	0.09	2	24.71	-15.56	17.69	-8.16
Memphis_AG	94	52	76	6	0.21	2	24.02	-14.23	16.05	-8.71
Milan	93	48	73	8	2.03	2	27.84	-12.91	19.60	-7.53
Murfreesboro_5N	94	47	74	9	0.68	3	28.44	-11.90	17.56	-9.00
Nashville_Metro	93	51	76	8	0.69	2	20.83	-15.12	13.26	-10.45
Newcomb	91	41	70	9	0.06	1	26.84	-14.72	18.83	-8.86
Oneida	91	44	71	10	0.10	2	25.32	-16.24	17.82	-9.87
Portland_TN	94	54	76	11	0.54	2	24.92	-13.83	15.56	-9.89
Pulaski_Water_P	91	48	73	5	0.47	1	23.82	-17.41	14.78	-11.06
Savannah_6SW	92	50	75	8	0.25	3	23.81	-18.43	15.15	-11.63
Sparta_TN	91	46	72	8	0.87	2	25.59	-15.96	17.20	-9.78
Springfield	96	50	74	9	0.64	1	24.25	-13.00	15.36	-9.02
Springhill	94	48	74	9	0.94	3	26.95	-13.99	17.45	-8.88
Union_City	91	50	72	7	1.06	3	30.24	-8.18	20.03	-5.21
Waynesboro_TN	91	50	74	9	0.53	3	26.85	-16.08	18.66	-8.50

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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